

Minutes
DPHHS Rates Commission
November 15, 2006
2401 Colonial BOI Conference Room
Helena, Montana

Attendees: Lois Steinbeck, Janet Whitmoyer, James Corrigan, Kathy Brophy, Jani McCall, Jim Fitzgerald, Diana Tavary, Mary Jean Golden, Barb Varnum, Representative Christine Kauffman, Senator Dan Weinberg

Absent: Representative Penny Morgan, Senator John Cobb, Bob Anderson, Bob Olsen

Guest: Charlie Briggs – MACDS

Welcome and introductions

Commission was welcomed and introductions were done

Approval of minutes

- no concerns or comments from those present
- Representative Christine Kauffman motioned to approve the minutes, Barb Varnum seconded. There was no opposition, motion passed and minutes were approved.

Define a framework for setting rates

- Gail pulled out some main points that Kevin had given in regards to rates
- Need to look at accountability, flexibility, etc...
- Money is not always the answer
- Medicaid redesign
 - o Good basic framework as we go through community service programs and start to look at how rates are designed and look at a way to build onto that methodology
 - o Comment was made that this is a health care model but some of the rates being dealt with are not health care focused
- Would be helpful to name the services as primary focus
 - o Adult mental health
 - o Foster care
 - o Children's mental health
 - o DD adult and children
 - o SLTC
 - Aging services
 - Home based
 - Waiver
 - o Chemical dependency
 - o Community voc rehab
 - o Daycare services
 - o TANF Work programs

- Prevention programs – at risk CFSD
 - Residential care
 - Non-institutional facilities
- Institutional facilities would be excluded
- Community health center
- FQHC
- It was asked what the commission role really is and how much the commission can take on without crossing the line.
- To what extent do we want to fill gaps in staff and what part does the state play in how workers in montana are treated and paid
- Jani read part of the MCA for the rates commission to remind the commission what their role is
- How do we prioritize the major focuses and do we have accurate information
- It was asked when and what the council wants to be able to affect and back it up
- Have things prepared by December of 2007
- Mary jean suggested looking at rates in different parts of the state rather than the whole state.
- Can it be kick started by doing something this session
- Need to try to identify what is going to be done and who it will be done with
- Work on one system to begin with and then once the process becomes more familiar do more at a time
- Suggested that some of the parts are not a lot of work but some could be difficult, imagine a grid with all of the a-e services start with the easy parts to go across all services and then the easier to have more time spent on it.
- Find systems with similar points and
- There are certain programs will have to have some changes made to them and might be some good places to start
- Continue to monitor other rates not being worked on during the process

What providers will be prioritized?

- Christine made a motion to recommend to the department that this commission focus its attention on children's mental health. Janet seconded
 - Suggested that foster care be included as well due to the similarities
 - Motion expanded to say mental health and foster care
- Christine made motion to amend previous motion to say children's mental health and foster care Mary Jean seconded.
 - Called to vote. All members in favor.

Create workgroup to really look at what the issues are, line them out, and begin to put a plan together and discuss what can be done in this session. Jeff and Gail work with the committee or be on the committee. Jani agreed to be on the workgroup. Kathy, Jim, Barb, and Diana volunteered to be on the workgroup.

Solicitation of new members

- Frieda Houser and Wayne Hershey have resigned from the commission leaving two vacancies. Gail has a couple of names put forth for the department employee,

Jeff Buska and Dave Thorsen. If there are any more names the commission will be informed. It will depend on who is willing to commit.

- Will need to find out about Senator Cobb and Representative Penny Morgan about their commitment
- As for the family and consumer representative just wanting ideas or names of people. Names or ideas to be forwarded to Gail.

Ten year rate increase history

- years across the top to make it easier to track
- more information since last meeting
- this will replace the grid from September meeting
- separated family foster care from foster care facilities and rate increases from direct care wage changes
- year by year all the rate changes and associated appropriations as going across
- for child and family services division it was taken a step further and went to the division to clarify rates
- additional column added to show state share source some not necessarily matched funding
- it is a pretty complex matter
- SLTC
 - o For nursing facility providers tax and IGT state special revenue is show as state share source
 - o I 149 funding was used extensively for last session
 - o 2006 and 2007 is pretty accurate
 - o The narrative in 05 and 04 for nursing facility increases there was a significant reduction in the budget but legislature was able to maintain rates which is important to be aware of

Colors help, is a lot better.

- children's mental health
 - o gray are no increase
 - o white are still researching
 - o funding was included in non hospital Medicaid provider rate increase
 - needs to be broken out to see the details

One thing that would be helpful would be to add DD and AMDD to list the state institutions so to be able to compare to private provider services. Commission should provide some guidance to the department.

Things that happened outside of the legislative session should be included.

Do a glossary of acronyms

Schedule next's year meetings

- week of January 8th

- week of March 5th
- week of April 23rd
- once in may
- once in June
- break during July and August
- start back up in September monthly

Wrap up and adjourn at 3:42